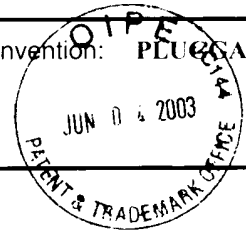


2833

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|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity) | | Docket No. POU920010111US1 | |
| Applicant(s): Barringer et al. | | | |

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|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Serial No. 09/942306 | Filing Date 08/29/2001 | Examiner Truc T. Nguyen | Group Art Unit 2833 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|



Invention: PLUGGABLE PLANAR BOARD

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

| CLAIMS AS AMENDED | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR | NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 9 - | 20 = | 0 x | \$18.00 | \$0.00 |
| INDEP. CLAIMS | 1 - | 3 = | 0 x | \$84.00 | \$0.00 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT | | | | | \$0.00 |

- ☒ No additional fee is required for amendment.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0463 in the amount of
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0463
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
 - ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
 - ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Lawrence D. Cutter
Signature

Dated: 2003/06/02

LAWRENCE D. CUTTER, Sr. Attorney
Reg. No. 28,501
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IP Law Dept
2455 South Road, M/S P386
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| |
|---|
| I certify that this document and fee is being deposited June 2, 2003 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20531-1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |
| <i>Susan L. Phelps</i> Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence |
| SUSAN L. PHELPS Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence |

CC:



IN THE U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barringer et al. : GROUP ART UNIT 2833 / Conf. No. 6669

Serial No. 09/942306 : Examiner Truc T. Nguyen

Filed: 08/29/2001 : May 30, 2003

5 Title: Pluggable Planar Board : Lawrence D. Cutter
: Intellectual Property Law
: 2455 South Road, P386
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

AMENDMENT

10 Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

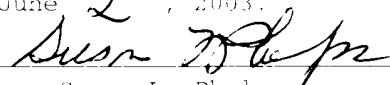
Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 6, 2003, please
15 amend the above-identified application as follows: applicants'
introductory comments begin on page 2 of this submission.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of
claims which begin on page 3 of the present submission.
Applicants' remarks and arguments begin on page 5 of this
20 submission.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.3(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United
States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MS Non-Fee
25 Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
June 2, 2003.


Susan L. Phelps

6-2-2003
Date of Signature

Introductory Comments

At present applicants' previously submitted claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon the newly cited patent to Lajara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,362,968 issued March 26, 2002) in view of the U.S. patent to Jackson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,452,809 issued September 17, 2002). In light of the amendments made herein and the arguments presented below, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of applicants' claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon the two cited patents cannot be sustained. Accordingly, it is therefore respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

It is noted that the present rejection is a non-final rejection; as a result, the present amendment is being made as of right. It is noted that the present response follows applicants' submission of a Notice of Appeal and an Appeal Brief with respect to claims earlier rejected under § 103 and § 112. Since the Examiner has not repeated the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, it is applicants' assumption that this rejection has been withdrawn. Nevertheless, it is noted that certain changes have been made in applicants' claims in an attempt to more fully address some of the concerns that the Examiner raised during several telephonic interviews with the applicants' attorney. In this regard, applicants' attorney wishes to express his thanks and gratitude to the Examiner for frank and open discussions with respect to claim patentability in spite of our inability to reach an agreement with respect to claim language at that time. The Examiner's time, effort, and thoughts on the matter, as communicated to the applicants' attorney, have been graciously received and are appreciated. Conversations with the Examiner have led the applicants to revise the currently submitted claims in a manner which more clearly points out and describes the

invention and its various embodiments. However, it is noted that the amendments being made herein are not in anyway intended to negatively impact the scope of the claims prior to amendment.

The present claim amendments are being made not in response to

5 the newly cited art, or in response to any cited art for that matter, but rather as a result of the conversations had with the Examiner with respect to clarity. As a result of these

conversations and the present amendments, applicants' claims should be more readable, easier to understand, and/or more

10 succinct. It is also noted that the present response does not require the payment of any additional fees.